

North Carolina is holding a series of District Christian Endeavor Conventions this fall, the first held in any of the districts except the Northwestern, which held its convention last year at Greensboro. Southern States Secretary Karl Lehmann is attending this series of conventions. The Western District had a fine large attendance at their meeting in Newton, October 4-5. President J. D. Andrew, of Catawba College, Newton, was elected president of the district. The Northeastern District met at Tarboro, October 7-8, with splendid delegations present. Rev. R. A. Lapsley, Jr., pastor of the Presbyterian church at Tarboro, is the new president of this district. The Southeastern District met at Wallace, October 9-10. Among the speakers at this meeting were Dr. A. D. McClure and Dr. John M. Wells, of Wilmington. James M. Wells, of First Presbyterian church, Wilmington, was elected president.

The District Conventions for Florida will be attended by State President Duncan B. Curry, of Jacksonville, who is also chairman of the All-South Extension committee, and Karl Lehmann, of Birmingham, Southern States secretary. These gatherings will be held at Pensacola, October 27-29, Daytona, October 30-31, Stuart, October 31 to November 1, Winter Haven, November 2-3, Sorrento, November 6-7.

Pine Bluff, Ark., has a new Christian Endeavor Local Union, their president is Harry Smith, 17 years old, the youngest local union president in the South.

The Southern Presbyterian Executive Committee on Foreign Missions has just appointed a Christian Endeavor missionary upon the request of the Endeavorers. Each society that subscribes for one or more shares in his salary at \$5.00 per share, will be given a large picture to be placed on the walls of the prayer-meeting room. Quarterly letters about the work in his field will be sent to the societies for their information. The missionary appointed is Dr. Thomas T. Stixrud, whose field is Luebo, Africa. Dr. Stixrud is a great surgeon and a wonderful missionary. His work has been marvelously blessed of God. He is a graduate of Davidson College, North Carolina; North Carolina Medical College, Charlotte, and did practical work in St. Lukes Hospital, Thomson Falls, Mont. He is a member of the Second Presbyterian church of Charlotte. Contributions should be sent direct to Dr. Egbert Smith, 156 Fifth avenue, N., Nashville, Tenn. Literature about Dr. Stixrud's work can be had from Dr. Smith also.

Wyatt A. Taylor, the new field secretary of the All-South Christian Endeavor Extension committee, is in a series of rallies in South Carolina, which will close at the State Convention in Sumter, November 10-12. On November 15th he begins a tour of Virginia in the interest of Christian Endeavor.

E. P. Gates, of Chicago, field secretary of the Illinois Christian Endeavor Union, is assisting Charles F. Evans, of Lexington, Ky., in a series of District Conventions and Institutes for Christian Endeavor in Kentucky.

The Mississippi State Christian Endeavor Convention has been set for June 8-10, at Jackson. This is the second State Christian Endeavor Convention in Mississippi. The first was held last April at Starkville. The State president, R. E. Mell, of Tupelo, has gone to the Mexican border as a Y. M. C. A. secretary, and the State vice-president, H. G. Ewell, of A. & M. College, is the new State president. State Treasurer Jas. B. Orr has moved to Arkansas, and Miss Annie Delle Perkins, of Starkville, is the new treasurer.

Seventeen new Christian Endeavor Societies were organized in South Carolina in September.

Over 5,000 new Christian Endeavorers were added to the ranks in the South during the month of September, which was observed as membership increase month.

## Educational

### IMPROVEMENT AT WESTMINSTER.

The friends of the Westminster School will rejoice with us over the successful termination of the campaign recently launched for a \$6,000 fund for improvements. When the question was first brought up at the spring meeting of Presbytery, the Presbytery was undivided in the opinion that the fund should be raised; but many of the brethren were skeptical as to the ultimate success.

The principal was appointed financial agent, and started the work with fear and trembling. His expectations were not disappointed—the churches gave feeble response. The necessity of the work was so great, however, that he urged the trustees to secure an expert agent to present the case to the church. After some correspondence, Rev. J. C. Shive was engaged to undertake the raising of the fund with the result that at the end of six weeks he reports the full amount raised.

The principal wishes here to express his appreciation of the efforts of Mr. Shive and his admiration for his special gifts and, most of all, his indefatigable energy and perseverance. We wish also to thank the friends who gave so generously to this cause. And we record our grateful thanks to our Father in heaven whose blessing has been manifest in all that has been accomplished.

We hope to have the new water and light plant installed within a few weeks. When the projected improvement will have been completed, Westminster will stand in the very front rank of preparatory schools as to equipment. The curriculum has been standard for three years; three members of the faculty are college graduates and graduates from Union and Louisville Seminaries; one other is an expert commercial instructor, being graduated from the Commercial School of Valparaiso University; another is a teacher of ability, though not a graduate of college.

It has been with keen pleasure that we have watched the gradual and permanent development of Westminster. She has built well. There is nothing shoddy in her organic life. We are beginning to feel that our labor has not been in vain.

T. E. P. Woods, Principal.

### HAMPDEN-SIDNEY COLLEGE.

The 141st session of the College has opened auspiciously. The number of students is already well beyond the total matriculation for the whole of last session, and others are due to come. It has been frequently remarked that the freshman class is the most promising body of new men seen on our campus in years.

Our new professor, Dr. Eugene R. Long, has taken hold of his work with great zeal, and has already won a warm place for himself in the College and community. He has also taken charge of the ladies' Bible class, which has steadily increased in numbers and in interest. A number of student classes have been organized and the attendance is very gratifying.

The student secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of Virginia has been on the campus assisting the officers of the Association to get their work well

under way. The secretary stated that he was profoundly impressed with the high tone of manhood that he found on our campus. We are glad to know that this is the uniform testimony of all those who visit the College.

Dr. Faulkner, the leading speaker at the Southern Sociological Congress, recently held in Farmville, spoke to the students at chapel on the importance of laying up "A Savings Account of Health—Physical and Moral." The address made a deep impression upon the students.

The new gymnasium is now nearing completion, and promises to be a handsome and invaluable addition to the College equipment. The old gymnasium has been transferred into a laboratory for the department of Biology and Psychology.

H. Tucker Graham.

### MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE.

The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago has opened its fall term with 712 men and women as resident day students, and 33 instructors, five of whom are new members of the faculty. This does not include the evening classes.

A feature introduced this year is the Swedish-English course, at the suggestion of the Swedish Evangelical Free Church, which has adopted the Institute as its Theological Seminary. The faculty, acting upon the recommendation and advice of church leaders of different denominations, has extended its curriculum to include New Testament Greek for men looking towards pastoral work on the frontiers and in mission fields. In pedagogics, for women especially, it now includes Bible story-telling; and for both men and women who may be deficient in early education it has increased its teachers and the time required to be spent in the study of English.

The department of Gospel music also has been strengthened by two new professors, one of whom is a specialist in voice-building. Its policy, however, is not changed in offering its advantages free to students of all denominations.

## Miscellaneous

### THE CONTENTS OF THE MAIL.

By Rev. S. L. Morris, D. D., Secretary.

Recently returning from an appointment, we found as usual, a batch of letters awaiting our attention. There is ordinarily a variety in the contents of a day's mail, but there is always one item "which cometh upon us daily," as Paul said of the "care of all the churches." Scarcely is there any mail coming to this office that does not contain a plea for assistance in some form. It has come to be a saying that every letter bringing a dollar, that finds its way to the Atlanta office, is accompanied by a half dozen other letters after that dollar. While this is not literally true, yet it is true in the sense that requests for aid far exceed our income.

The object of this writing is to inform the Church of the contents of a recent batch of letters, as a specimen of the needs and appeals which overwhelm us as well as of the embarrassment of the Home Mission Committee in consequence of our inability to respond.

First, there came an account of the destruction of Texas-Mexican Industrial Institute at Kingsville, Texas, together with photographs showing the wreck of dormitory and barn. They cost \$3,500, money raised by Dr. J. W. Skinner by patient effort and pathetic appeals, covering a period of several years. It all went in a moment with

the breath of the storm. The Home Mission Committee had not a dollar with which to aid. It is borrowing money every day to meet promises already made; and instead of sympathy, men indignantly answer our appeals for funds by saying, "why don't you keep within your income?" Why don't we, when such cries of need are ringing in our ears till we are almost wild by reason of our utter helplessness!

2. Another letter was from Mobile, Ala., informing us that the storm had wrecked our new colored church which had cost its faithful membership \$3,000. It is one of the most successful colored churches on our roll. They cannot rebuild without financial help. The Home Mission Committee is in debt and is advised to "keep within its income." What shall we do for a distressing case like this?

3. From a white church in Texas came a similar appeal, giving account of its wrecked building, by the fury of the winds. It makes a pathetic appeal for help in rebuilding. Taking the whole Church into our confidence, what does it advise in this case, since we ourselves are embarrassed by debt? Is the Church indifferent to the duty of "providing for its own"?

4. So much for storm and tempest, but the physical is not the only kind of disaster overtaking our mission fields. One letter came from the president of Oklahoma Presbyterian College, telling of the financial crisis which paralyzed his work, and stating that they ought to have \$500 to assist in opening the college and getting started on the fall term. What could we say?

5. Almost identical was a letter from one of the best mission schools in our mountain work, stating that faculty and students were arriving; and yet the institution had not the means to buy the books required nor funds to secure the provisions with which to open the dormitory. This school wanted to know if the Home Mission Committee could advance the money and reimburse itself out of any funds it could raise in the near future. To comply with the request means simply borrowing the money, paying interest, going deeper in debt, and taking the risk of God's people giving sympathetic ear to this cry of distress.

Following upon the heels of these appeals came the account of a home missionary, who made the most telling speech at the last Assembly, who is living on a pitiful salary, whose wife has been for weeks in the hospital undergoing an expensive operation. Could the Home Mission Committee render a little extra help, was a question which came not from the uncomplaining missionary, but from a devoted friend. If they were foreign missionaries, every dollar of that hospital expense would be paid by the Church; and we are asked why the Home Mission Committee cannot take the same care of its missionaries. The Church must answer that question as for such cases.

These are specimens of appeals that are pouring in upon this office, regularly, persistently, and distressingly. If the Church only knew the facts, if its consciousness could by some mental telepathy be connected up with the personal consciousness of the secretaries who are called of the Church to hear these pleas and finance this work, there would never be the lack of a dollar. Our only recourse is to lay a few of the facts before the Church and trust to the Spirit of God to touch the hearts of God's people. Will pastors aid us in our extremity and come to the relief of their distressed brethren in the great mission fields struggling painfully with these oppressive burdens?